

**ON THE MAXIMUM ENTROPY SOLUTION  
OF THE CARATHÉODORY-FÉJER PROBLEM**  
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**Abstract.** An approach to the Carathéodory-Féjer problem based on the method of unitary extensions of an isometry, which gives a geometric interpretation of Schur parameters, was presented in a previous paper. In this note we complement that approach by showing that innovation and entropy type considerations lead to select a particular solution of that problem, as it happens in the trigonometric moment problem.

**Innovation in each step**

We want to show that some relations between maximum entropy and the moment problem, as discussed by Landau [L], also appear naturally in the context of the Carathéodory-Féjer problem when it is solved by the method sketched in [A-1]. So we shall use the notation and results of the last paper without stating them again.

Let  $\{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n\} \subset \mathbb{C}$  be such that  $F_n = \{f \in H^\infty(T) : \|f\|_\infty \leq 1, \hat{f}(k) = c_k, 0 \leq k \leq n\}$  has more than one element. (See [A-1], theorem A). Set  $K_n = \{\hat{f}(n+1) : f \in F_n\}$ . A classical statement says that  $K_n$  is a closed disk with radius equal to  $\prod_{k=0}^n (1 - |\gamma_k|^2)$ , where  $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$  are the Schur parameters corresponding to  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n$  [Sch]. We start by giving a proof of that result. More precisely:

**Proposition A**

$K_n = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \|z - a_n\| \leq \rho(n)\}$ , with  $\rho(n) = \prod_{k=0}^n (1 - |\gamma_k|^2)$ ,  $a_n = \langle VP_{D(n)} V^n d_1, d_2 \rangle_{H(n)}$ , and  $P_{D(n)}$  the orthogonal projection of  $H(n)$  onto  $D(n)$ .

**Proof**

Let  $f \in F_n$  there exists  $(U, G) \in U$  such that  $\hat{f}(n+1) = \langle U^{n+1} d_1, d_2 \rangle_G =$

$$\langle VP_{D(n)} V^n d_1, d_2 \rangle_{H(n)} + \langle UP_{N(n)} V^n d_1, d_2 \rangle_G = a_n + \langle UP_{N(n)} V^n d_1, P_{M(n)} d_2 \rangle_G$$

Now,  $\rho(n) = \text{dist}^2[V^n d_1, D(n)] = \text{dist}^2[d_2, R(n)]$ , so  $\rho(n) = \|P_{N(n)} V^n d_1\|^2 = \|P_{M(n)} d_2\|^2$ ; thus,  $\|\hat{f}(n+1) - a_n\| \leq \rho(n)$ .

It remains to see that, if  $|z| \leq \rho(n)$ , there exists  $(U, G) \in U$  such that  $\langle UP_{N(n)} V^n d_1, d_2 \rangle_G = z$ . Let  $N'$  be the span of a unit vector  $v$ , set  $H' = H(n) \oplus N'$  and call  $V'$  the isometry acting in  $H'$  that extends  $V$  to  $H(n)$  and verifies  $V'(P_{N(n)} V^n d_1) = [z/\rho(n)] P_{M(n)} d_2 + \{[\rho(n)^2 - |z|^2]/\rho(n)\}^{1/2} v$ . Take  $(U, G) \in U$  such that  $U|_{H(n)} = V'$ . Then  $\langle UP_{N(n)} V^n d_1, d_2 \rangle_G = \langle V' P_{N(n)} V^n d_1, d_2 \rangle_G = [z/\rho(n)] \langle P_{M(n)} d_2, d_2 \rangle_{H(n)} = z$

Q.E.D.

As we know, the Fourier coefficients of each  $f \in F_n$  are obtained in a step by step extension of  $V^n d_1$ . In the step that gives  $c_{n+1} = \hat{f}(n+1) = \langle U^{n+1} d_1, d_2 \rangle_G$  we put  $U^{n+1} d_1 = \mu + \beta$ , with  $\mu = VPD(n) V^n d_1 + [z/\rho(n)] PM(n) d_2$  belonging to  $H(n)$  and  $\beta = \{[\rho(n)^2 - |z|^2]/\rho(n)\}^{1/2} v$  orthogonal to that space. So we may say that  $c_{n+1}$  is obtained by using in  $\mu$  the information we already had (i.e., the one given by  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n$ ) and innovating in  $\beta$ .

Now,  $[\rho(n)^2 - |c_{n+1} - a_n|^2]/\rho(n) = ||\beta||^2 = \text{dist}^2[U^{n+1} d_1, H(n)] = \rho(n)(1 - |\gamma_{n+1}|^2)$   
 $= \rho(n+1)$

Since  $\rho(n)$  is determined by  $\{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n\}$ , we may think of  $(1 - |\gamma_{n+1}|^2)$  as giving a measure of the innovation in step  $(n+1)$  of the construction of the sequence  $\{c_k\}$  of Fourier coefficients of  $f$ .

From  $|c_{n+1} - a_n|^2 = \rho(n)|\gamma_{n+1}|^2$  and  $\rho(n+1) = [\rho(n)^2 - |c_{n+1} - a_n|^2]/\rho(n)$  we see that the closer we choose  $c_{n+1}$  to the centre  $a_n$  of the disk  $K_n$ , the bigger the innovation will be and the larger the disk  $K_{n+1}$  where we shall have to choose  $c_{n+2}$  in the next step. In particular, when innovation in step  $(n+1)$  equals zero,  $f$  is completely determined by  $\{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{n+1}\}$  while maximum innovation corresponds to  $\gamma_{n+1} = 0$ .

### On the entropy integral

In this context the following result, due to Boyd [B], is remarkable:

#### 1. Proposition

Let a sequence  $\{c_k\} \subset \mathbb{C}$  be such that there exists an  $f \in H^\infty(T)$  that satisfies  $\|f\|_\infty \leq 1$  and  $f(k) = c_k$  for every  $k$ , with corresponding Schur parameters  $\{\gamma_k\}$ . Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pi \{(1 - |\gamma_k|^2) : 0 \leq k \leq n\} = \exp \left\{ (1/2\pi) \int_0^{2\pi} \log(1 - |f|)^2 dt \right\}$$

This property is closely related to the fundamental results we now recall.

**2. Theorem.** Let  $d\eta = w dt + d\eta_s$  be a finite positive measure on  $T$  such that  $d\eta_s$  is singular to  $dt$  and  $D_n$  the determinant of the Toeplitz matrix  $(\hat{\eta}(j-k))_{0 \leq j, k \leq n}$ . Set  $e_j(t) = e^{ijt}$ . Then:

a) the distance in  $L^2(\eta)$  of  $e_0$  to the span of  $\{e_j : j \geq 1\}$  equals

$$\exp \left\{ (1/2\pi) \int_0^{2\pi} \log w dt \right\};$$

b)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (D_n/D_{n-1}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_n^{(1/n+1)} =$

$$= \exp \left\{ (1/2\pi) \int_0^{2\pi} \log w dt \right\}.$$

Property (2.a) is Szegő - Kolmogorov - Krein theorem (See [G-S], p.44 or [G], p.144, for example) and the proof (1) is based on it. Property (2.b) is Szegő's limit theorem ([G-S], p.65). The following extension of Boyd's proposition can be seen as translation of theorem (2) from the context of the trigonometric moment problem to the one of the Carathéodory-Féjer problem.

If  $\alpha = (\alpha_{jk})_{j,k=12}$  is a positive matrix of measures on  $T$  call  $L^2(\alpha)$  the Hilbert space generated by the linear span of  $\{(e_j, e_k), j, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  and the scalar product given by  $\langle (e_j, e_k), (e_{j'}, e_{k'}) \rangle = \hat{\alpha}_{11}(j-j') + \hat{\alpha}_{12}(j-k') + \hat{\alpha}_{21}(k-j') + \hat{\alpha}_{22}(k-k')$ .

**3. Proposition B** For  $f \in H^\infty(T)$  such that  $\|f\|_\infty \leq 1$  let  $\{\gamma_k\}$  be the sequence of its Schur parameters,  $\Gamma_n$  the Toeplitz matrix  $(\hat{f}(j-k))_{0 \leq j, k \leq n}$  and  $\alpha = (\alpha_{jk})_{j,k=12}$  given by  $\alpha_{11} = \alpha_{22} = 1, \alpha_{12} = \bar{\alpha}_{21} = f$ . Then the distance in  $L^2(\alpha)$  of  $(0, e_0)$  to the span of

$\{(e_j, e_k): j \geq 0, k > 0\}$  is equal to

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\det(1 - \Gamma_n^* \Gamma_n) / \det(1 - \Gamma_{n-1}^* \Gamma_{n-1})] = \\ = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pi \{(1 - |\gamma_k|^2) : 0 \leq k \leq n\} = \exp \left\{ (1/2 \pi) \int \log(1 - |f|^2) dt \right\}.$$

### Proof

With  $\hat{f}(k) = c_k$  set  $H = V \{ H(n) : n \geq 0 \}$ . Thus, with obvious notation,  $H$  is generated by  $\{V^j d_1, V^k d_2 : j, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  and  $L(V^j d_1 + V^k d_2) = (e_j, e_k)$  defines a unitary isomorphism of  $H$  onto  $L^2(\alpha)$  that takes  $d_2$  to  $(0, e_0)$  and  $V \{V^j d_1, V^k d_2 : j \geq 0, k > 0\}$  onto  $V \{e_j, e_k : j \geq 0, k > 0\}$ . We know [A-1] that  $\rho(n) = \det(1 - \Gamma_n^* \Gamma_n) / \det(1 - \Gamma_{n-1}^* \Gamma_{n-1}) = \Pi \{(1 - |\gamma_k|^2) : 0 \leq k \leq n\}$  is equal to the distance in  $H(n)$  from  $d_2$  to the span of  $\{V^j d_1, V^k d_2 : n \geq j \geq 0, n \geq k > 0\}$ . Since  $H(n) \subset H(n+1)$  for every  $n$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{(\det(1 - \Gamma_n^* \Gamma_n) / \det(1 - \Gamma_{n-1}^* \Gamma_{n-1}))\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pi \{(1 - |\gamma_k|^2) : 0 \leq k \leq n\}$  is the distance in  $H$  from  $d_2$  to  $V \{V^j d_1, V^k d_2 : j \geq 0, k \geq 0\}$ , ie, the distance in  $L^2(\alpha)$  from  $(0, e_0)$  to  $V \{e_j, e_k : j \geq 0, k > 0\}$ . So the result follows from (1).  
Q.E.D.

Now, with the notation of (2) if  $n$  is the spectral measure of a zero-mean Gaussian stationary process  $X = \{X_j : j \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , the entropy rate  $H(X)$  of  $X$  is such that [L]

$$H(X) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1/2) \log [2 \pi e D_n^{(1/n+1)}]$$

so

$$H(X) = (1/2) \log [2 \pi e] + (1/4 \pi) \int \log w dt.$$

Thus, the association to each  $f$  as in (3) of a Gaussian stationary process  $X$  with spectral measure  $d\eta = (1 - |f|^2) dt$  gives an entropy meaning to the integral

$$\{(1/2 \pi) \int \log(1 - |f|^2) dt\}. \text{ Proposition (1) says that the sum of the logarithms}$$

of the step by step innovations converge to that entropy integral.

### Calculation of the maximum entropy solution

So, when  $\{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n\} \subset C$  is such that  $F_n$  has more than one element, we may say that the function  $f \in F_n$  corresponding to the Schur parameters  $\gamma_j = 0$  for every  $j > n$  is the maximum entropy solution of the Carathéodory-Féjer problem. Of course, it can be obtained by means of Schur's algorithm [Sch]. Here we sketch an alternative method, based on the fact that every  $f \in F_n$  is given by a unitary extension  $(U, G) \in U$  of a well defined isometry  $V$  and that the maximum entropy solution corresponds to the "most innovative" [A-2] element in  $U$ .

Since  $\#(F_n) > 1$ , the orthogonal complement  $N \equiv N(n)$  of the domain  $D(n)$  of the isometry  $V$  in  $H(n)$  is one-dimensional and the same happens with the orthogonal complement  $M \equiv M(n)$  of the range  $R(n)$  of  $V$ . Set  $M_j \equiv M$  for every  $j \leq 0$ ,  $N_k \equiv N$  for every  $k \geq 0$  and

$$\bar{G} = (\oplus \{M_j : j < 0\}) \oplus H(n) \oplus (\oplus \{N_k : k > 0\})$$

Let  $S$  be the unilateral shift. Since  $H(n) \oplus (\oplus \{N_k : k > 0\}) = D(n) \oplus (\oplus \{N_k : k \geq 0\})$

and  $(\oplus \{M_j: j < 0\}) \oplus H(n) = (\oplus \{M_j: j \leq 0\}) \oplus R(n)$ , a unitary operator  $\tilde{U}$  is defined by setting  $\tilde{U} = S$  on  $(\oplus \{M_j: j < 0\}) \oplus (\oplus \{N_k: k \geq 0\})$  and  $U = V$  on  $D(n)$ .

Then  $(U, G) \in U$  and, from the geometric interpretation of Schur parameters, it follows that in this case  $\gamma_k = 0$  for every  $k > n$ .

Consequently,  $(\tilde{U}, \tilde{G})$  gives the solution  $f$  we are interested in.

We shall use now the notation defined in the statement and proof of proposition B. Remark that, if for any trigonometric polynomial  $q$  we set  $\rho(t) \equiv q(-t)$ , then we have:

$$\langle (q_1, q_2), (q'_1, q'_2) \rangle_{L^2(\alpha)} = \int_T \{p_1 \bar{p}'_1 + p_1 \bar{p}'_2 f + p_2 \bar{p}'_1 \bar{f} + p_2 \bar{p}'_2\}.$$

Let  $v \in N$  be a unit vector in  $N$  such that  $\langle V^n d_1, d_2 \rangle > 0$ ; thus,  $v$  is a well defined linear combination of  $\{V^j d_1, V^k d_2: n \geq j \geq 0, n \geq k \geq 0\}$  and there exist two analytic trigonometric polynomials of degree at most  $n$ ,  $q_1$  and  $q_2$ , such that  $Lv = (q_1, q_2) \in L^2(\alpha)$ . Also,  $L(S^j v) = (e_j q_1, e_j q_2)$ ,  $\forall j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . From  $0 = \langle S^j v, v \rangle$  for every  $j > 0$  and  $1 = \langle v, v \rangle$ , it follows that

$$p_1 \bar{p}_1 + p_1 \bar{p}_2 f + p_2 \bar{p}_1 \bar{f} + p_2 \bar{p}_2 = 1 \text{ on } T$$

Now,  $p_1 \bar{p}_2 f = g + \phi$ , with  $\phi \in H^\infty$  and  $g$  an antianalytic polynomial of degree at most  $n$  completely determined by  $\{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n\}$ , such that

$$2 \operatorname{Re} \phi = 1 - |p_1|^2 - |p_2|^2 - 2 \operatorname{Re} g \text{ on } T \text{ and } \phi(0) = 0$$

Consequently,  $\phi$  is also determined by  $\{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n\}$  and  $f$  is given by the rational fraction

$$f = \{e_n g + e_n \phi\} / \{e_n p_1 \bar{p}_2\}$$

In order to have explicit formulas note that

$$v = [1 / (1 - |\gamma_n|^2)] d_1(n) + [\gamma_n / (1 - |\gamma_n|^2)] d_2(n),$$

with  $d_1(n)$  given by (16) in [A-1] and  $d_2(n)$  by a similar expression.

Summing up.

**Theorem C.** Let  $\{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n\} \subset \mathbb{C}$  be such that  $F_n = \{f \in H^\infty(T): \|f\|_\infty \leq 1, f(k) = c_k, 0 \leq k \leq n\}$  has more than one element. Set  $c_j = 0$  for  $-n \leq j \leq -1$  and  $e_j = \delta_j$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , call  $P$  the linear span of  $\{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  and in  $P \times P$  define a scalar product by setting, with  $\delta(0) = 1$  and  $\delta(j) = 0$  if  $j \neq 0$ ,

$$\langle (e_j, e_k), (e_j, e_k) \rangle = \delta(j-j') + c_{j-k} + \bar{c}_{j-k} + \delta(k-k').$$

Then there exists one and only one  $(q_1, q_2) \in P \times P$  such that  $\langle (q_1, q_2), (e_j, 0) \rangle = -\langle (q_1, q_2), (0, e_k) \rangle = 0$  for  $0 \leq j < n, 0 \leq k \leq n$ , and  $\langle (q_1, q_2), (e_n, 0) \rangle > 0$ .

Set  $\rho_1(t) \equiv q_1(-t)$ ,  $\rho_2(t) \equiv q_2(-t)$ ; if  $\rho_1 \bar{p}_2 = \sum \{c_j e_j: 0 \leq j \leq n\} = \sum \{g_j e_j: -n \leq j \leq 2n\}$ , call  $g = \sum \{g_j e_j: -n \leq j \leq 0\}$ ; let

$\phi \in P$  be determined by  $2 \operatorname{Re} \phi = 1 - |p_1|^2 - |p_2|^2 - 2 \operatorname{Re} g$  and  $\phi(0) = 0$ . Set  $f_0 = (e_n g + \phi) / (e_n p_1 \bar{p}_2)$ .

Then:  $f_0 \in F_n$  and, for any  $f \in F_n$  such that  $f \neq f_0$ ,

$$\int \log(1 - |f_0|^2) dt > \int \log(1 - |f|^2) dt.$$

Finally, we want to point out that our approach to maximum entropy aims to establish the relations of some results of [C] and [D-G] with the method of unitary extensions of isometries.

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